



MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board Members

FROM: Emily Shelman (Legislative Liaison) and Neil Ruddock (Policy Advisor)

DATE: September 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Legislative Activity

With the 2009-2011 state budget now complete, legislators' attention has shifted to summer study committees. The Interim Study Committee on Education will be chaired by Senator Dennis Kruse (R), with Representative Greg Porter (D) serving as Vice-Chair. The Committee is tasked with examining the following issues:

- 1) Adult Education; specifically, potential service gaps and a fiscal analysis of available program funds and state needs.
- 2) Early school start dates and calendar flexibility
- 3) Potential needs for after-school programming in Indiana

The Department has been asked to provide staff and testimony for the Interim Study Committee's first hearing on September 3rd (1pm, Room 233 of the Statehouse). The topic for this hearing is Adult Education. The inability of "qualified providers" to compete for state Adult Education funds—as they may do for Federal funds—is also likely to be discussed at the meeting.

There will also be a summer study committee on the school funding formula. Representative Terry Goodin (D) will chair that committee, with Senator Gary Dillon (R) serving as Vice-Chair. Department staff have not yet been notified of meeting dates and times. With the funding formula changes enacted in the state budget—most notably in the reduction of the de-ghoster from five years to three—the formula will likely remain a point of contention in the General Assembly.